

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An applicator or other surgical applicators, said applicator comprising a barrel portion and a handle portion attached thereto, said barrel portion comprising means for holding a surgical clip and said handle comprising trigger means, said trigger means being operative to effect closure of a surgical clip held within said barrel by movement of said trigger from a first position to a second position, at which second position said applicator is operative to effect closure of said clip, and in which said trigger is provided with a visual indicator means indicative of an intermediate trigger position, at which intermediate position said surgical clip held in said barrel is closed to a half closed position.
2. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 1, in which said visual ~~indication~~ indicator means comprises an indentation on said trigger means.
3. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 1, in which said visual ~~indication~~ indicator means comprises a reduced section of said trigger means.
4. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 1, in which said visual ~~indication~~ indicator means comprises groove means in said trigger means.
5. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 4, in which said groove means may comprise means for engaging with a removable stop means said removable stop means being co-operative with a portion of said handle portion to prevent movement of said trigger means past a predetermined position.

6. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 5, in which said groove means is present on both sides of said trigger means.

7. (Original) An applicator as claimed in claim 6, in which said stop means comprises a U shaped member which is designed in a first locking position to sit within said groove means and to protrude from said groove means to form said stop means.

8. (Original) An applicator as claimed in claim 7, in which said U shaped member comprises spring steel or similar material ensuring secure engagement with said groove means.

9. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 8, in which said U shaped member comprises means for gripping by a surgeon to effect removal of said U shaped member from said trigger means enabling movement of said trigger means past said predetermined position.

10. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claims 1 ~~to 9~~, in which the trigger ~~may~~ means comprises two or more colours arranged to identify a specific position of the trigger means.

11. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 1 in which the handle portion includes a recess, the trigger means being pivotally mounted within said handle portion to be moveable within said recess when said trigger means is operated and in which the trigger means is dimensioned to have minimal clearance between itself and the recess edges over substantially the whole pivotal movement of the trigger means.

12. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 11 in which the visual indicator means is provided by a change in surface texture at a defined position across the trigger means.

13. (Currently Amended) An applicator as claimed in claim 12 in which trigger ~~mechanism~~ means provides a feedback pressure as a clip is being moved from an open to a half closed position this feedback pressure providing a tactile sense to the surgeon which when combined with the visual indication provides additional information on the position of the clip.

14. (Currently Amended) An applicator comprising a handle portion and a barrel portion, said barrel portion having gripping means at a distal end from said handle portion for gripping an object in which said handle portion includes trigger means operative to move into and out of a main body portion of said handle and being operative to move said gripping means to grip an object and in which said trigger means is provided with visual indication means indicating a defined intermediate position of said trigger means, said ~~unusual indicator~~ visual indication means comprising a change in surface texture at ~~an~~ a defined intermediate position, said surface texture change being dimensioned such that the clearance between the trigger means and said main body portion is minimal, thereby removing the possibility of snagging surgical gloves on movement of the trigger means.

Please add the following new claims:

- 15. (New) A medical appliance comprising:
- a barrel portion;
  - a handle portion;
  - said barrel portion including a holder for a surgical clip;

said handle portion including a trigger that is operative to effect closure of the surgical clip from a first position to a second position;

said trigger in said second position effecting full closure of the surgical clip;

said trigger having a visual indicator that is representative of an intermediate trigger position between said first and second positions;

said trigger at said intermediate position maintaining said surgical clip at a partially closed position.

16. (New) A medical appliance as claimed in claim 15, in which said visual indicator comprises an indentation on said trigger.

17. (New) A medical appliance as claimed in claim 15, in which said visual indicator comprises a reduced section of said trigger.

18. (New) A medical appliance as claimed in claim 15, in which said visual indicator comprises a groove and said trigger.

19. (New) A medical appliance as claimed in claim 15, in which said visual indicator is defined by two or more colors arranged to identify a specific position of the trigger.

20. (New) A medical appliance as claimed in claim 15, in which the handle portion includes a recess, the trigger being pivotally mounted within the handle portion to be movable within the recess when the trigger is operated and in which the trigger is dimensioned to have a minimal clearance with the edge defining the recess.